



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
110 9TH AVENUE SOUTH, ROOM A-405
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37203

April 15, 2026

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District (USACE) is conducting a Flood Risk Management Study of the Pigeon River watershed in Haywood County, North Carolina (Figure 1). The goal of the study is to identify flood impact zones within the watershed and devise measures to reduce flood risk, life-safety risk, and improve community resilience. Several local groups, including the Towns of Canton, Clyde, and Waynesville, along with Haywood County and the Southwestern Commission are non-federal sponsors of the Study.

Presently, USACE is in the scoping phase of the Pigeon River Flood Risk Management Study. This study will consider both structural and non-structural measures. "Structural" measures are flood control features such as dams, floodplain modifications, or floodwalls that alter the flow of floodwaters. Structural measures may involve the construction of a new structure or alteration and removal of existing structures. "Non-structural" measures are solutions to reduce flood risk that do not involve specific flood reduction features altering floodwater flows. Examples of non-structural measures include the development of a Flood Warning and Emergency Evacuation Plan, flood proofing buildings, or removing buildings.

This letter serves to solicit comments from interested stakeholders; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials, and other interested parties to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity in accordance with the USACE planning processes. USACE will use the comments to assess impacts on the human-environment.

This letter also serves to initiate the public involvement requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Section 106, implemented by regulations at 36 CFR 800, requires the USACE to consider the effects of its undertakings on historic properties. Architectural and archeological investigations would be conducted within those areas affected by the proposed activities. The findings and assessment of effects to historic properties would be coordinated with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer, Federally Recognized Tribes, and other consulting parties. Individuals or organizations with demonstrated interest in the project and affected resources may request to be a Section 106 consulting party.

We request comments be sent by email to PigeonRiverStudy@usace.army.mil, no later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of this letter. If you are unable to access an email account, you may send your written comments to the address listed in the letterhead above, ATTN: CELRN-PMP (Sid Riddle). Additionally, a Public Meeting will be held on Wednesday May 6th, 2026 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM EST at the Waynesville Town Hall located at 16 South Main St., Waynesville, NC 28786. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Valerie J. McCormack, PhD
Chief, Project Planning Branch

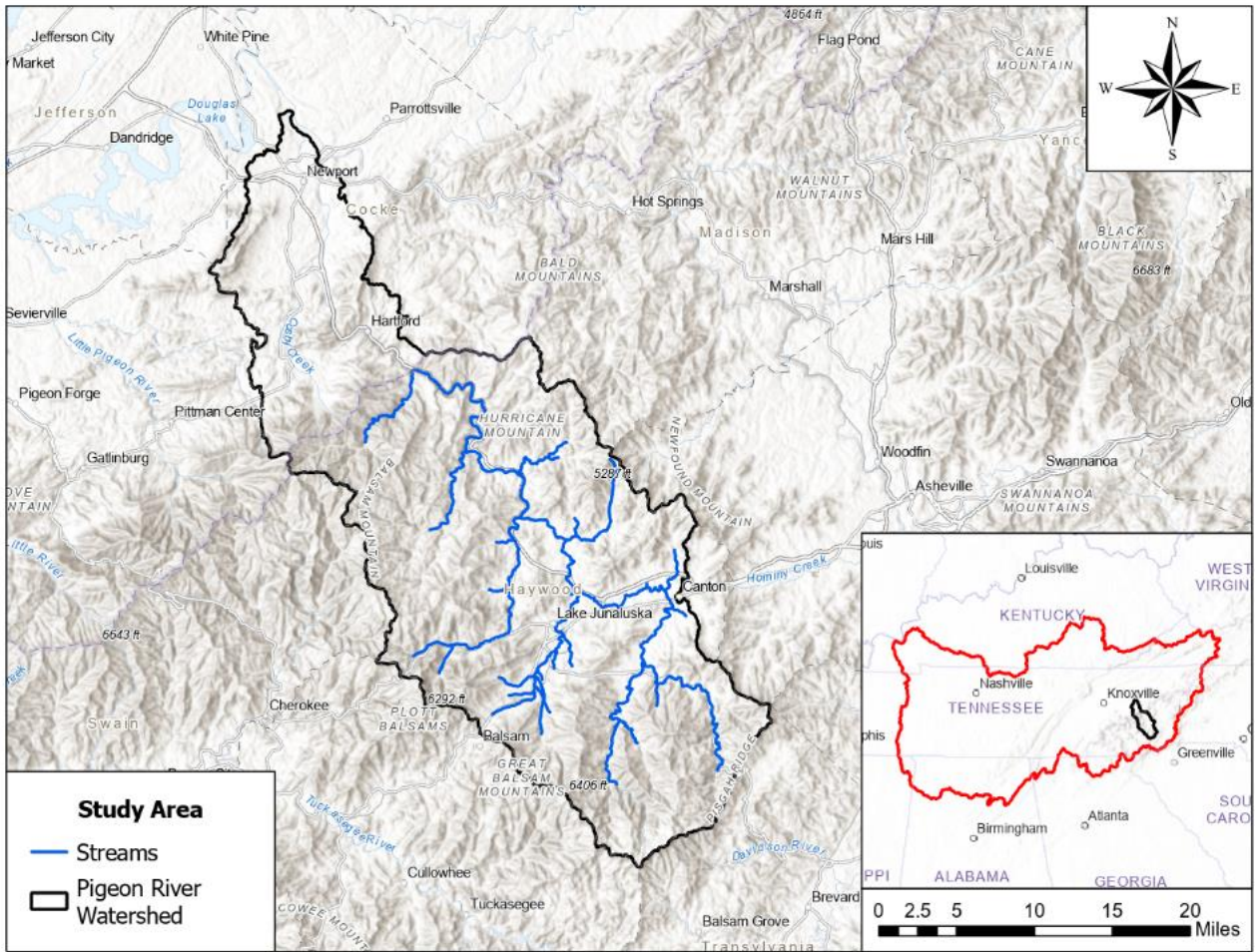


Figure 1. Location of the Pigeon River watershed within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District Boundary.